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WELDING  
INDUSTRIAL ENGINEERING  
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# **THE NATIONAL SHIPBUILDING RESEARCH PROGRAM**

## **Proceedings of the REAPS Technical Symposium**

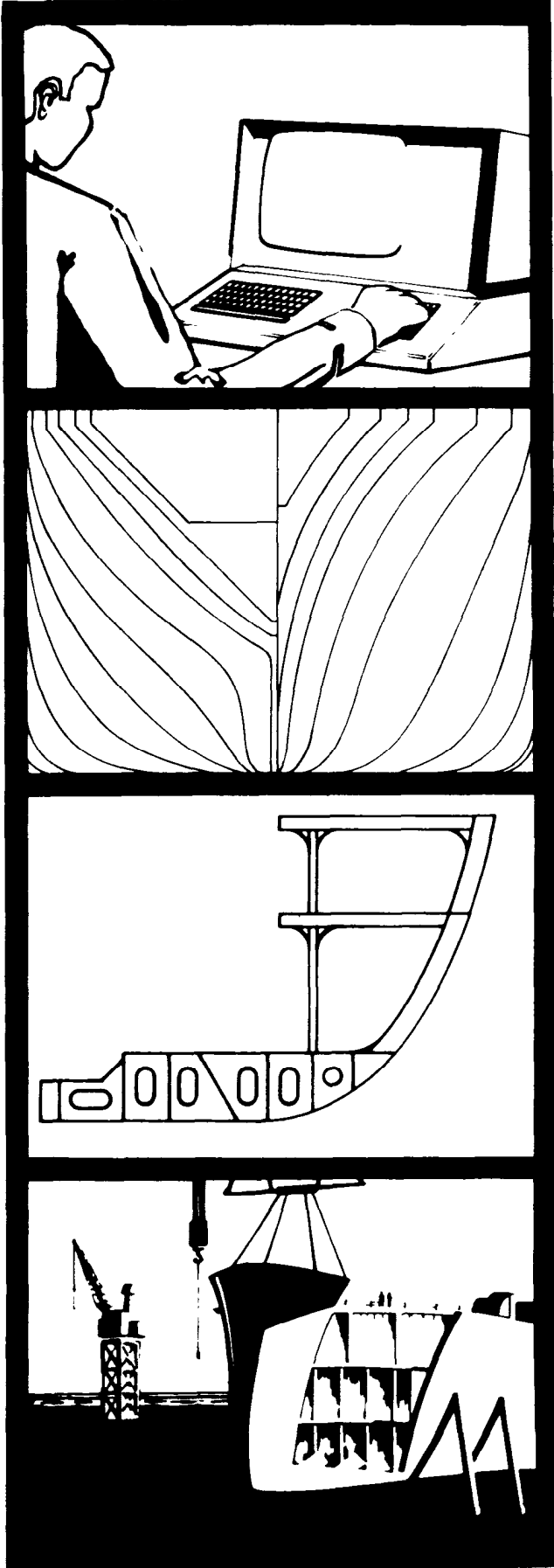
### **Paper No. 15: A New Approach to Fabrication Drawings**

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
CARDEROCK DIVISION,  
NAVAL SURFACE WARFARE CENTER

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**P** RODUCTIVITY  
**S** IN  
SHIPBUILDING

**Proceedings of the  
REAPS Technical Symposium  
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Philadelphia, Pennsylvania**

## A NEW APPROACH TO FABRICATION DRAWINGS

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### ABSTRACT

In this paper a problem is discussed that has existed in the shipbuilding industry for many years; that is how to present to production workers fabrication drawings that are more accurate, less cumbersome and easily understood. An approach to solving this problem through use of N/C lofting software is presented and discussed.

## INTRODUCTION

For many years the shipbuilding industry has recognized the fact that skilled craft workers are becoming more difficult to find.

The skilled Shipfitter of years past is practically non-existent today. This person worked with large, cumbersome detail drawings that were prepared for regulatory body approval, along with full size templates furnished by the Mold Loft, where applicable.

In order to fabricate one unit of a vessel it was usually necessary to work with several large drawings for structures such as Shell Plating, Decks, Transverse Floors, Transverse Bulkheads, Longitudinal Bulkheads and Longitudinal Girders. Since these drawings were prepared for one third to one half of the vessel, a great deal of redundant information had to be sorted out by the Shipfitter.

In order to reduce the skill level requirement of the Shipfitter several new processes have been developed such as N/C Lofting and Plate cutting. While these processes reduced the fitting and welding man hours they did not eliminate the problem of cumbersome, difficult to understand drawings which were still necessary to fabricate the structure.

In recent years several new approaches have been made to provide fabrication drawings that are easily understood by the average craft person within the industry. These drawings are generally prepared by hand and are subject to the usual error of this process.

This paper will discuss a new approach to preparation of fabrication drawings utilizing previously generated N/C Lofting information.

## THE CONCEPT

The concept of developing the fabrication drawings from previously developed N/C Lofting data came about recently as a result of the needs of a new shipyard, Upper Peninsula Shipbuilding Company. This totally new facility was to employ a local work force with no prior shipbuilding experience, therefore it was imperative that the fabrication drawings be simplified as much as possible.

Working with Breit & Garcia, the design Agent for UPSCO, Cali & Associates is developing the fabrication drawings for the first vessels being constructed in the new facility at Ontonogan, Michigan. To date, approximately one third of the structural units for the Tug of a Tug/Barge combination have been constructed utilizing the N/C Lofting data and Fabrication Drawings.

## DEVELOPMENT

As can be seen from the Functional Diagram, Figure 1, the development of Fabrication Drawings does not require anything exceptional or out of the ordinary within the normal operational cycle. Some additional work is required by the N/C Loft and the Design Department which will be covered in more detail further on.

The general evolution from Design to Production, as depicted in Figure 1, is as follows:

Utilizing Contract Scantling Drawings or Detail Design Drawings the Production Department decides on the Unit breakdown, erection sequence, and welding details for

the vessel. This information is relayed to the Design Department for inclusion on drawings as necessary.

(Figure 2)

The Design Department adds erection information to the drawings such as butts, seams and welding details as required by the Production Department, for subsequent issue to the N/C Loft.

(Figure 3)

The N/C Loft, utilizing Scantling or Detail Drawings issued by the Design Department along with written planning information from the Production Department, produces all the individual parts, templates, nest tapes, stiffener data and Bills of Material required for each defined structural unit.

(Figures 4 & 5)

Upon completion and validation of all parts within a Unit, the N/C Loft prepares the background fabrication drawings utilizing the previously defined parts and a feature within the "SPADES" software that allows these parts to be drawn in their proper relationship to each other, since they have been defined within the ship's coordinate system. These drawings, by virtue of the parts having been programmed to include labeling, have all the required piece mark identification as well as reference lines and orientation.

(Figure 6)



A recently added feature of the "SPADES" software allows the direct generation of a panel drawing for flat rectangular parts with all identification labeling, locating dimensions for attaching structure and check dimensions for alignment checks. Dimensions are all provided by the system, from the Data Base, and not from input by the part programmer. This assures accuracy and control of the data provided to the Production Department.

(Figure 7)

The Design Department completes the Fabrication Drawing generated in the N/C Loft by adding welding, standard detail call-outs and any notes that might be required. This drawing is then issued to the Production Department for subsequent use of the Shipfitters in assembly of the Units.

(Figure 8)

# FUNCTIONAL DIAGRAM

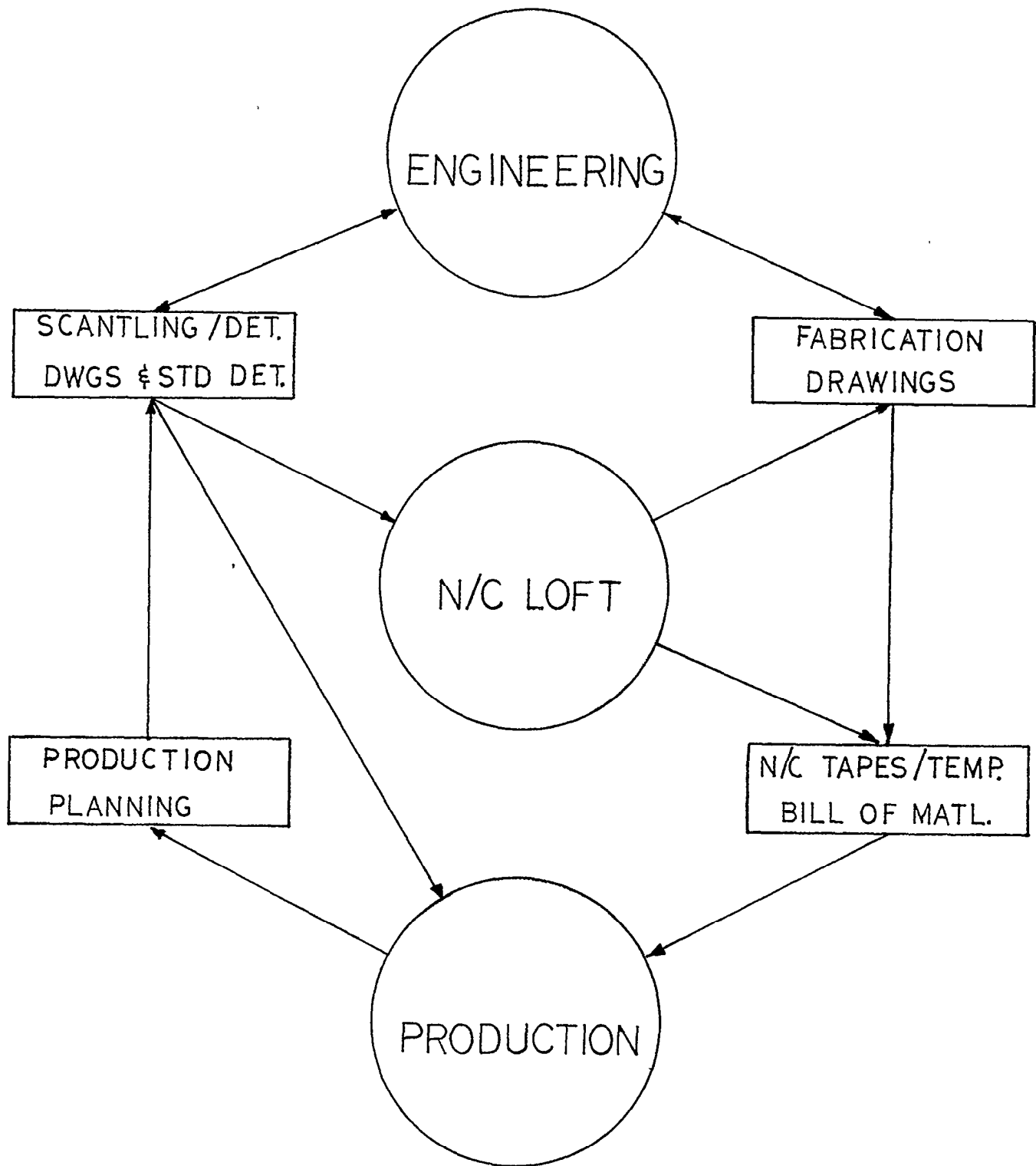


FIGURE 1

PRODUCTION PLANNING

UNIT DESCRIPTION

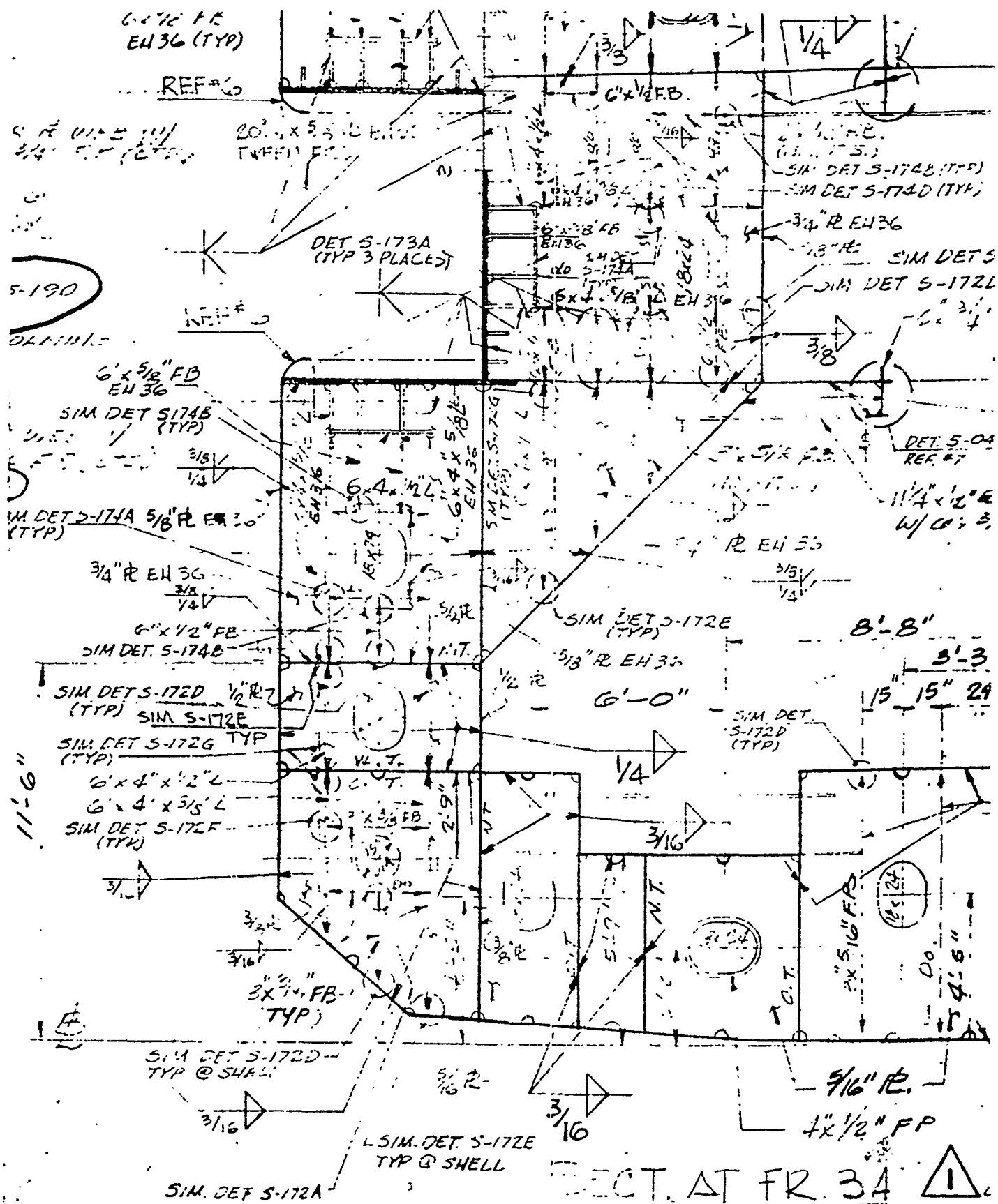
UNIT NO: 10

TITLE: WING TANK FR. 29-42 STBD.


DESCRIPTION:

THIS UNIT TO BE ASSEMBLED USING WING TANK BULKHEAD AS A BASE. PANEL WELD BULKHEAD AND ERECT FRAMES ON SAME. PANEL WELD MAIN DECK, FIT AND WELD TO PREVIOUSLY ERECTED FRAMES. FIT AND WELD SHELL PLATES, TACK WELDING ONLY TO FRAMES. ROLL UNIT ONTO SIDE SHELL AND COMPLETE WELDING DOWNHAND. LEAVE 1" STOCK ON FORWARD END OF UNIT.

FIGURE 2



(FIGURE 3)

ECT. AT FR. 34   
 STBD. LKS AFT.  
 PORT SIDE SIM.  
 SCALE: 1/4" = 1'-0"

```

*****
*
*          U P P E R   P E N I N S U L A   S H I P B L D G .
*          -----
*
*          U F S C O   T U G
*****
* NO. PLATES LIKEWISE = 1 NO. PLATES MIRROR IMAGE = 0 TOTAL NO. PLATES = 1
*
* PLATE SIZE = 3600X 9800X 51 STOCK NO. = MTL. = STEEL
*
*****
*
*          P A R T S   N E E D   T H I S   T A P E
*
*          PART NO.      QTY.      PART NO.      QTY.      PART NO.      QTY.
*          -----
*          14 60F        2/      1      14 60F        1/      1      14 CLR        1/      10
*          14 CLR        2/      10      14 CLR        4/      2      14 50F        51/      2
*          14 50F        4/ S   1      14 50F        4/ P   1      14 51F        4/ S   1
*          14 51F        4/ P   1      14 55F        4/ S   1      14 55F        4/ P   1
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*          P R E P A R E D   B Y
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*          C A L I * A S S O C I A T E S ,   I N C .
*          -----
*
* CHECKED BY:          VALIDATED BY:
*****
* JOB NO. 9026UP01          TEST TAPE NO. 4610144- 3 /
*****

```

FIGURE 4

IDENTIFICATION & PLOT LOCATION OF PARTS  
 FOR TAPE NO. 4610144- 3

PLOT REF.	DRWG. & LOC.	N/C ID & MODE	LINE PLATE MODULE & FCNK.	MIRR. PLATE MODULE & FCNK.
*	*	*	*	*
*	*	*	*	*
1	* 14	* 0421-302- 1 L	* 14 60F 2/	* *
*	*	*	*	*
2	* 14	* 0421-301- 1 L	* 14 60F 1/	* *
*	*	*	*	*
3	* 14	* 0431- 3- 4 L	* 14 CLR 1/	* *
*	*	*	*	*
4	* 14	* 0431- 4- 4 L	* 14 CLR 2/	* *
*	*	*	*	*
5	* 14	* 0431- 2- 4 L	* 14 CLR 4/	* *
*	*	*	*	*
6	* 14	* 0432- 1- 2 L	* 14 50F 51/	* *
*	*	*	*	*
7	* 14	* 0404- 1- 3 L	* 14 50F 4/ S	* *
*	*	*	*	*
8	*	*	* 14 50F 4/ F	* *
*	*	*	*	*
9	* 14	* 0404- 2- 3 L	* 14 51F 4/ S	* *
*	*	*	*	*
10	*	*	* 14 51F 4/ F	* *
*	*	*	*	*
11	* 14	* 0404- 6- 3 L	* 14 55F 4/ S	* *
*	*	*	*	*
12	*	*	* 14 55F 4/ F	* *

\*\*\*\*\*

FIGURE 4 a

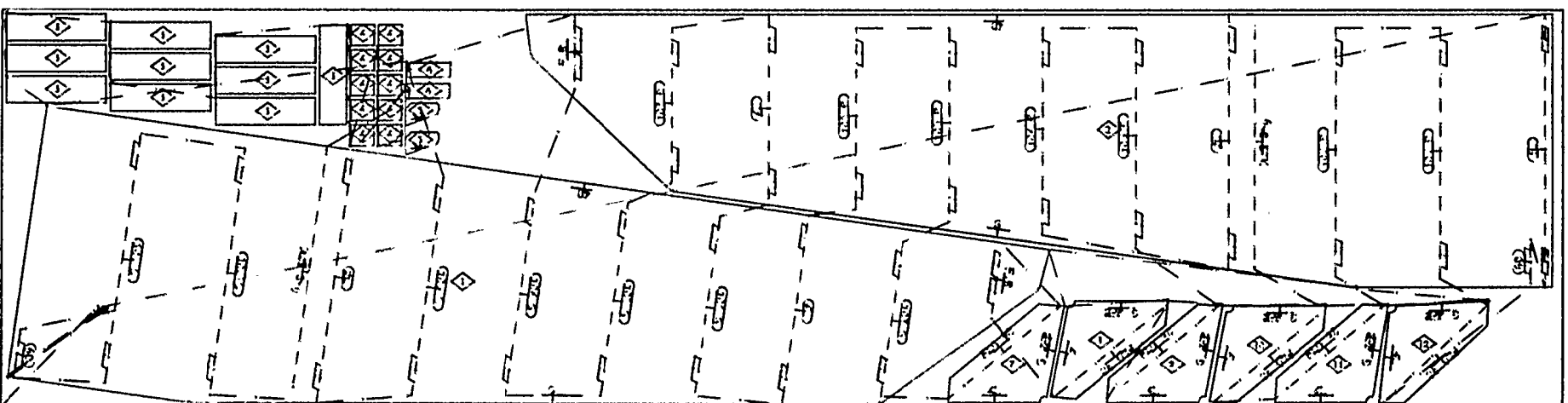


FIGURE 4 b

+ UFGI - 4610144 - 3

S P A D E S      S Y S T E M

DATE    10/03/80

SUMMARY   REPORT   OF   BURNING   TAPE   NO.

4610144   -   3

PIERCING   TIME	0.0	(PIERCING   ALLOWANCE   0.0/   0.0   MIN.)
RAPID   TRAVERSE   TIME	10.2	(ASSUMED   SPEED   250.0   IN. /MIN.)
CENTER   PUNCHING   TIME	5.7	(ASSUMED   SPEED   250.0   IN. /MIN.)
BURNING   TIME	30.0	(ASSUMED   SPEED   90.0   IN. /MIN.)
TOTAL   PROCESSING   TIME	46.0	MINUTES

POST   PROCESSOR   OPTIONS   USED   FOR   TAPE   :

FORMAT   :   EIAS

CUTTING   PROCESS   :   PLSM

PAPER   TAPE   PARITY   :   EVEN

PLATE   OUTLINED   BY   :   D.M

KERF   COMPENSATED   BY   AUX.   FUNCTION

LABEL   MARKING   OPT   IONS: .      11

NO   OF   STOPS   PROGRAMMED   IN   THE   TAPE   :   4

#### MATERIAL   UTILIZATIONS   DATA

PLATE   UTILIZATION   =      83.9   PERCENT

SCRAP   WEIGHT        =      540.2   POUNDS

TYPE   OF   MATERIAL   STEEL

FIGURE 4 c



REPORT DATE : 9/11/80  
 D.B.NAME : UP01 9026UP01  
 VESSEL : UPSCO TUG

S P A D E S S Y S T E M  
 SHIP PRODUCTION AND CONTROL MODULE

PAGE NO. 0. 1  
 MODULE/UNIT: 10  
 REPORT REV. 1

TOTAL WEIGHT FOR SHAPES: 6831.7 LBS.  
 TOTAL WEIGHT FOR PLATES: 74252.2 LBS.  
 TOTAL WEIGHT FOR MODULE: 81083.9 LBS.

FIGURE 5

REPORT DATE : 9/11/80  
 D.B.NAME : UP01 9026UP01  
 VESSEL : UPSCO TUG

S P A D E S S Y S T E M  
 SHIP PRODUCTION AND CONTROL MODULE

PAGE NO. 3. 1  
 MODULE/UNIT: 10  
 REPORT REV. 1

PIECES PRODUCED FROM SHAPES

303	LINE-REV	PIECE MARK/ DRAWING NO.	QTY/ LOC.	WGT.	MAT'L	LENGTH	STK	*A*	*B*	*C*	N/C ID	WEB 1 FLANGE 1	WEB 2 FLANGE 2	OTHER N/C DESCRIPTION	AIDS
	1-	1 29F	101	2	141 DS 668	11-05-08		11-05-08			0	B C-04	T C-04	0	0
	2-	1 31F	101	1	97 DS 668	7-10-13					0	C104	C-02	0	0
	3-	1 31F	102	1	72 DS 668	5-10-06					0	C-04	C102	0	0
	4-	1 31F	103	1	55 DS 670	3-05-00		3-05-00			0	B C-04	T C102	0	0
	5-	1 31F	104	1	63 DS 670	3-11-00		3-11-00			0	B C-04	T C101	0	0
	6-	1 31F	105	1	107 DS 670	6-07-00		6-07-00			0	B C-04	T C102	0	0
	7-	1 32F	101	1	95 DS 668	7-08-07					0	C104	C-02	0	0
	8-	1 32F	102	1	69 DS 668	5-07-10					0	C-04	C102	0	0
	9-	1 32F	103	1	55 DS 670	3-05-00		3-05-00			0	B C104	T C-02	0	0
	10-	1 32F	104	1	86 DS 670	5-04-00		5-04-00			0	B C104	T C-02	0	0
	11-	1 32F	105	1	107 DS 670	6-07-00		6-07-00			0	B C104	T C-02	0	0

FIGURE 5 a

REPORT DATE : 9/11/80  
D. B. NAME : UP01 9026UP01  
VESSEL : UPSCO TUG

S P A D E S S Y S T E M  
SHIP PRODUCTION AND CONTROL MODULE

PAGE- NO. 6. 1  
MODULE/UNIT: 10  
REPORT REV. 1

PLATE MATERIAL LIST

LINE	STOCK NO.	GRADE	SIZE	QTY.	N/C- TAPE	ND.	PRC. TIME	LOC.	NOTES:
1		STEEL	38600X 9800X 25	2	4610073-	14	47.8		
2		STEEL	38603X 9800X 25	1	461CC78-	4	47.7		
3		STEEL	38600X 9800X 25	1	4610079-	3	44.1		
4		STEEL	38600X 9800X 38	2	4610081-	3	55.4		
5		STEEL	38600X 9800X 38	2	4610084-	3	42.1		
6		STEEL	38600X 9800X 50	2	4610089-	5	167.9		
7		EH36 STL	48000x 7400x 75	2	4610090-	6	49.3		
8		STEEL	38600X 9800X 62	1	4610091-	6	94.1		
9		STEEL	38600X 9800X 50	1	4610099-	5	156.5		
10	BEVELS	EH36 STL	48000X10200X 62	2	4610102-	4	147.1		
11		STEEL	38600X 9800X 25	1	4610103-	3	41.7		
12		STEEL	38600X 9800X 38	2	4610014-	6	146.4		
13		STEEL	38600X 9800X 38	1	4610105-	4	72.8		
14	BEVELS	EH36 STL	48000X10200X 75	1	4613106-	3	114.4		
15	BEVELS	STEEL	38600X 9800X 50	1	4610108-	4	169.0		
16		STEEL	38600X 9800X 75	1	4610110-	3	79.1		
17	BEVELS	STEEL	38600X 9800X 62	1	4610111-	6	172.7		

FIGURE 5 b

REPORT DATE : 9/11/80  
D. B. NAME : UPO1 9026UP01  
VESSEL : UPSCO TUG

S P A D E S S Y S T E M  
SHIP PRODUCTION AND CONTROL MODULE

PAGE NO. 7. 1  
MODULE/UNIT: 10  
REPORT REV. 1

PIECES PRODUCED THROUGH N/C CUTTING

LINE-REV	PIECE	MARK	DRAWING	NO.	LOC.	QTY.	WGT.	HAT.	THK.	STK	N/C	ID.	NEST	TAPES	TEMPLATES	PROCESS 1ST 2ND	DESCRIPTION
1-	1	10D	1			1	531	0	.62	0335-	1-	2	10115-	3			
2-	1	1D	1	9-10		1	715	0	.50	0335-	2-	2	10113-	7			
3-	1	1D	2	9-10		1	952	0	.38	0335-	3-	2	10112-	2			
4-	1	27D	1	9-10		3	364	0	1.50	0330-	1-	4	10108-	4			
5-	1	29F	1			1	635	0	.38	0299-	1-	2	10081-	3			
W 6-	1	29F	2			1	1034	0	.38	0311-	1-	4	10122-	6			
85 7-	1	29F	51			1	30	0	.38	0299-	2-	2	10081-	3			
8-	1	29f	52			1	24	0	.38	0299-	3-	2	10081-	3			
9-	1	29F	53			4	11	a	.38	0311-	2-	4	10122-	6			
10-	1	29F	54			2	13	0	.38	0311-	3-	4	10122-	6			
11-	1	30F	1			1	630	0	.38	0299-	5-	2	10081-	3			
12-	1	30F	2			1	262	0	.38	0312-	1-	2	10122-	6			
13-	1	31F	51			1	30	0	.38	0299-	6-	2	10081-	3			
14-	1	30F	52			1	24	0	.38	0299-	7-	1	10081-	3			
15-	1	30F	53			2	11	0	.38	0312-	2-	2	10122-	6			
16-	1	31F	1			1	618	0	.38	0220-	1-	5	10081-	3			
17-	1	31F	2			1	1925	3	.75	0313-	1-	3	10119-	2			

FIGURE 5 c

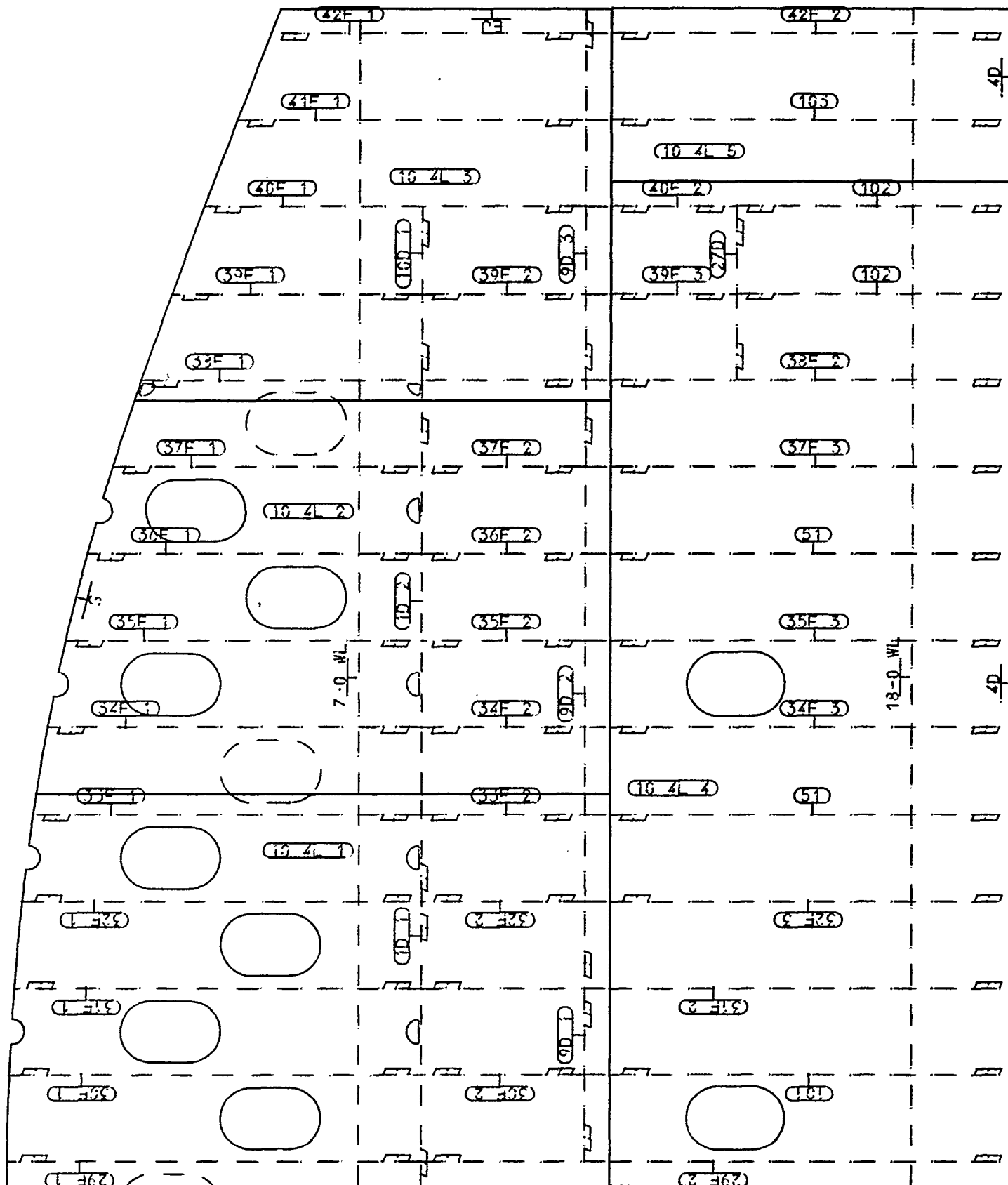


FIGURE 6

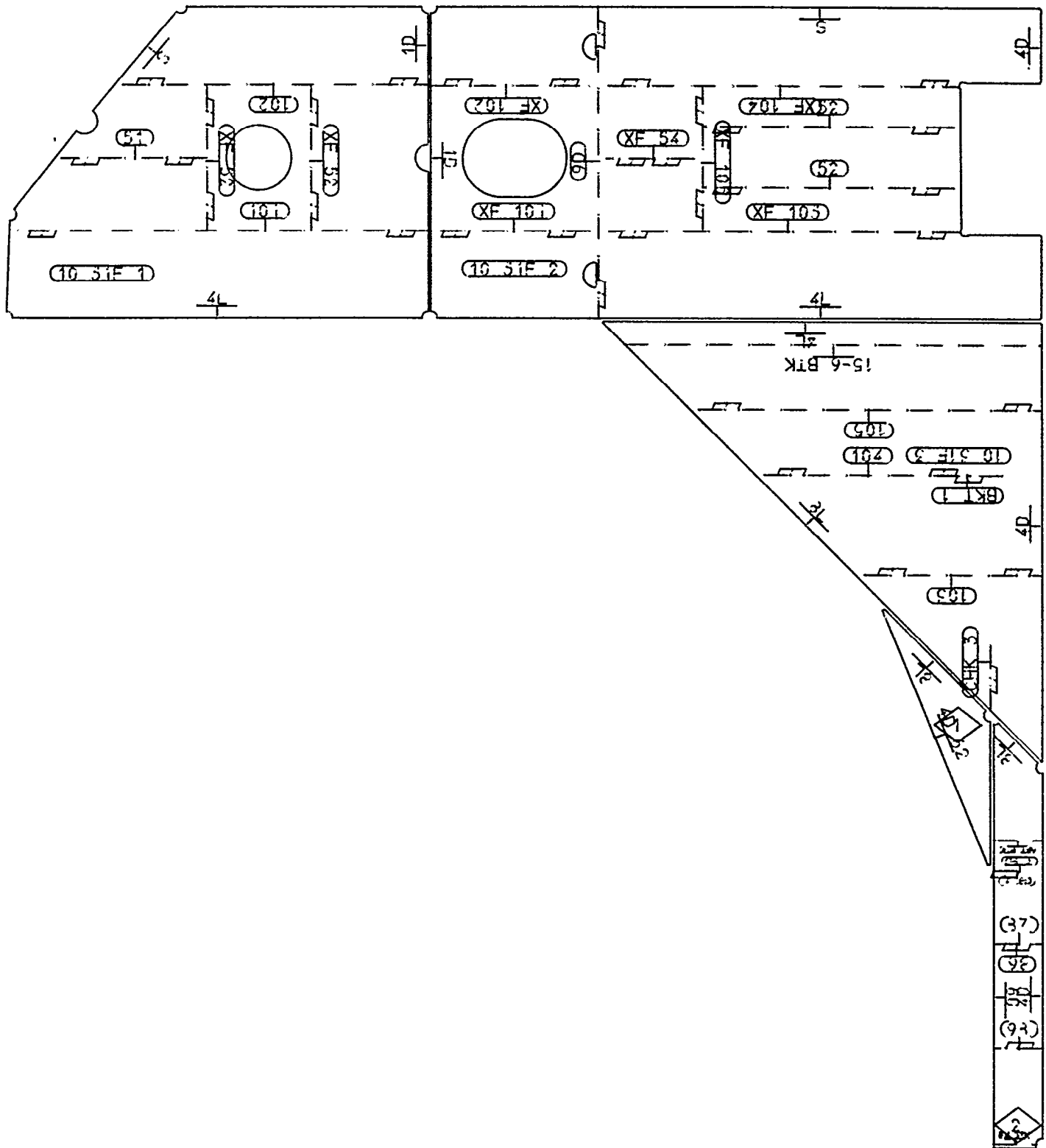


FIGURE 6 a

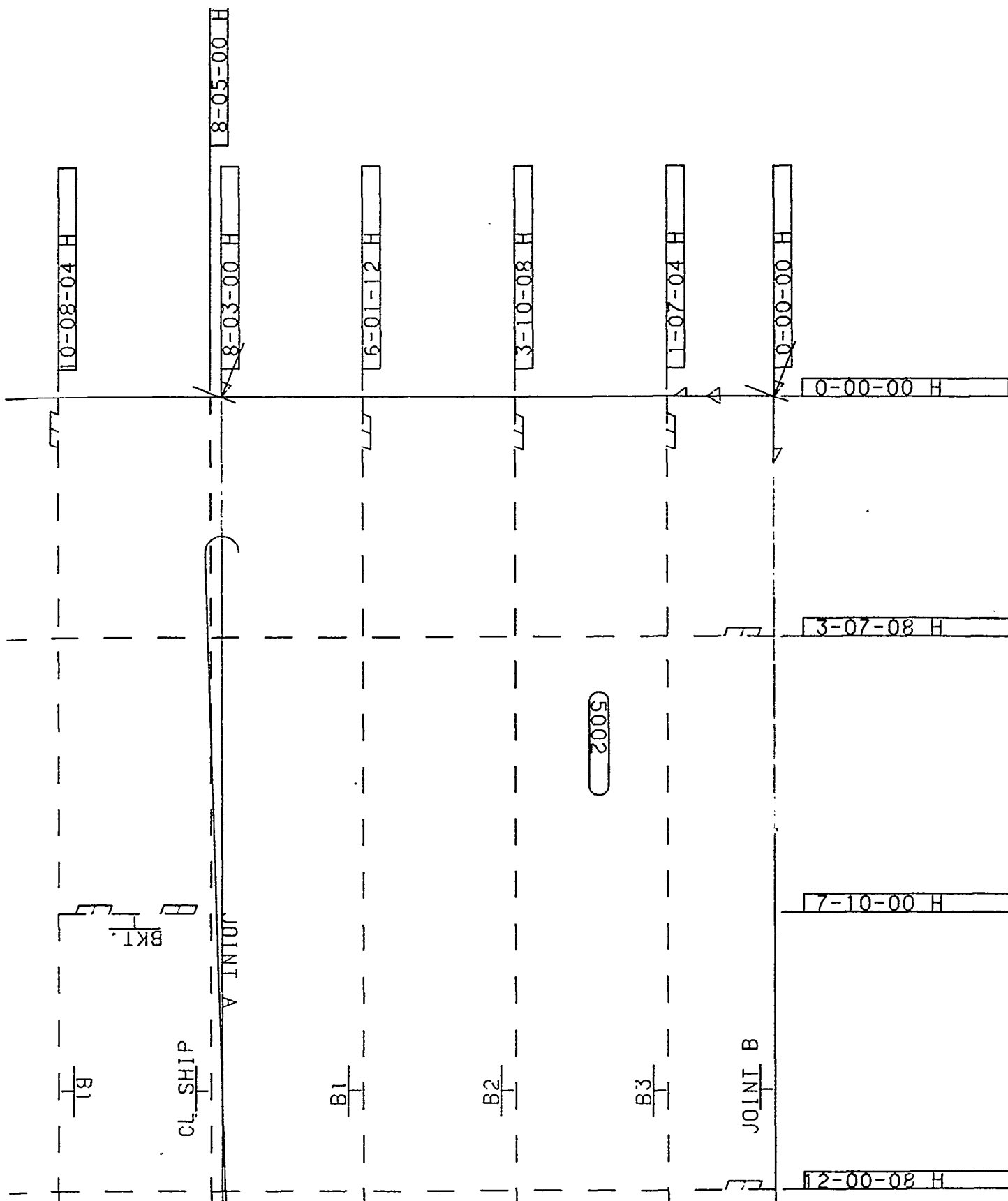


FIGURE 7

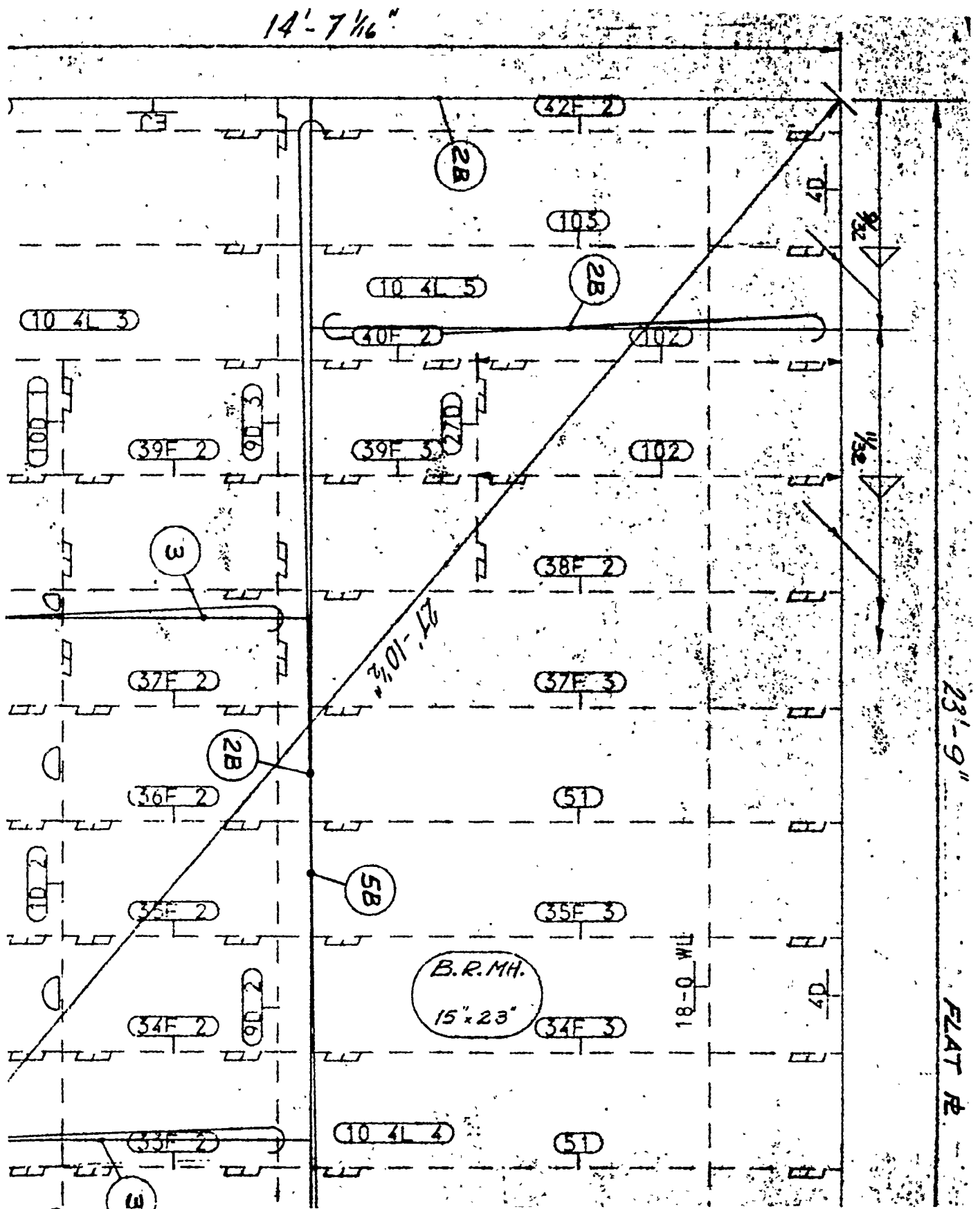


FIGURE 8





## CONCLUSION

Reports from Upper Peninsula Shipbuilding indicate the Fabrication Drawings being used are a total success in that people without prior shipfitting experience are doing an excellent job in fabrication of the Tug Boat.

As experience is gained, and particularly through use of Interactive Graphics, the time to produce the Fabrication Drawings is being reduced considerably. A conservative estimate would place the cost to produce the drawings in this manner at about twenty five percent (25%) of the cost to prepare them entirely by hand.

Since the lofting effort is mandatory to the construction of a vessel, it seems that the development of Fabrication Drawings should be handled as described in this paper in order to take full advantage of the inherent accuracy and reduced man hours.

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